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California is First State to Release a Plan to End Youth Homelessness

Sacramento – California aims to lead the way in ending youth homelessness thanks to a new report commissioned by the state Senate and published by the California Homeless Youth Project. *More Than a Roof: How California Can End Youth Homelessness* provides policy solutions to address youth homelessness in the state and recommends action steps for state and local policymakers, service providers, and government agencies. California organizations using innovative practices to address youth homelessness are also highlighted throughout the plan.

Senator Carol Liu (D-La Cañada-Flintridge) commissioned the report to promote increased leadership on ending youth homelessness at the state level and to encourage public and private sector entities to work together to end homelessness in California. "We are fortunate that the information presented not only raises awareness of the scope of the homeless youth problem but also provides a framework for tackling an issue that heretofore has been largely ignored," Liu said. "I am committed to advancing the report's recommendations, through legislation if needed, to prevent and reduce youth homelessness," she added.

The report will be officially released at a press conference at the State Capitol on **January 8th, 2013 at 10am in Room 2040**. Senator Liu and formerly homeless youth from the California Council on Youth Relations will give remarks on recommendations within the plan that can help California reach the goal of ending youth homelessness. This will be followed by a screening of "Voices from the Street" a 30-minute film highlighting California homeless youth's ideas for policy change.

For an advance copy of the report, please email shahera.hyatt@library.ca.gov.

The California Homeless Youth Project (HYP) is a research and policy initiative of the California Research Bureau, supported by funding from the California Wellness Foundation. The HYP is dedicated to educating local and state policymakers about unaccompanied youth who are homeless. Learn more at <http://cahomelessyouth.library.ca.gov/>.

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